

GALLATIN COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

Gallatin County 4-H will represent Montana in the National Christmas Tree Display and the Pageant of Peace A Washington, DC Christmas Tradition

For 82 years, the United States has held a tradition of lighting a National Christmas Tree in Washington, DC. In 1978, a live 40-foot Colorado blue spruce was transplanted from York, Pennsylvania to its present site on the Ellipse, the grassy area south of the White House. In 1954, a "Pathway of Peace," 56 smaller, decorated trees representing all 50 states, five territories, and the District of Columbia were planted surrounding the National Christmas Tree. Each year sponsoring organizations from each state provide tree decorations that are encased in a protective plastic globe to shield it from the weather. One of our leaders has witnessed the "Pathway of Peace" in person and mentioned how beautiful it was. Upon further research, she found that Montana's state tree was not represented by an organization. Therefore, Gallatin County 4-H will be filling the 50 plastic globes. If any clubs, members or families would like to participate in this venture, please contact the 4-H office at 388-3213 or 201 West Madison, Suite 300 in Belgrade. **The Rockin' Roosters 4-H Club will host a party on November 6th at the Valley Bank of Belgrade meeting room (in the basement) at 6:30 to collect all of the globes. If you are unable to attend, please return them to our office by November 6 so that we can return them to Washington, DC by November 17.** For more information regarding the lighting of the National Christmas tree go to www.pagentofpeace.org.

OCTOBER 2006



LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING

The Gallatin 4-H Unlimited Leaders Council will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at Mackenzie River Pizza in Belgrade. Bring your appetite and a few bucks for pizza. **Meeting date is October 10.**

Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter Seeking Help

Volunteers are desperately needed for two key tasks at the Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter. #1. Dog walkers. Unfortunately, many dogs are walked less than once a week and there are over 100 dogs to walk. Club members are welcome to call the animal shelter and arrange a time as a club or individually. You can walk dogs for as long as you want on the trails near the shelter. #2. Foster Families – Many times a litter of puppies or kittens are dropped at the doorstep of the animal shelter and there is no room or staff time available to meet all their needs. Foster Families can step in at a time like this and provide a good temporary home for these little ones for a two-week period. If interested, call Margie Taylor, Executive Director at 556-1113 or Erika Lackington, Shelter Manager, at 582-1847.

Window Displays

Compete for a club prize for National 4-H week and show pride in your 4-H club by placing a display in the window of any area business. The display should show activities and accomplishments in 4-H with pictures, awards, and fun decorations. Call the 4-H office at 388-3213 and let us know by October 2 where your display is so it can be judged.

HOWEVER, displays can be set-up anytime of the year showing pride in 4-H, not just during National 4-H week.

RE-ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

When your 4-H project doesn't begin for a few months into the 4-H year, it is easy to forget to re-enroll by the **October 2nd deadline**. **In order to avoid a late fee, please re-enroll and pay your \$15.00 registration by October 2nd.** Late fees will be \$5.00 per member per month after October 2nd up to a \$15.00 late fee per member maximum. To re-enroll, please visit the 4-H office at 201 West Madison, Suite 300 in Belgrade or call 388-3213 with questions. Thank you for your interest in 4-H and we look forward to seeing you soon.